

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY S/NM:RADUGSTAD:AM
APPROVED BY S/NM:AMB. VANCE
ARA/RPP:GBROWN
S/S: MR. SEBASTIAN

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R 271702Z AUG 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

S E C R E T STATE 213329

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH JLP AND OJEDA PAULLADA ON
NARCOTICS CONTROL

1. WE WERE DELIGHTED TO LEARN OF YOUR CONVERSATIONS
WITH JLP AND OJEDA PAULLADA REASSURING US THAT THE
PRESIDENT-ELECT AND ECHEVERRIA ARE FULLY INFORMED ABOUT
DURAZO. ADDITIONALLY, THE PERSONAL COMMITMENT FROM JLP
THAT US-GOM COOPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL NAR-
COTICS WILL CONTINUE UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS,
INDEED, EXTREMELY WELCOME.

2. WE ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH YOU THAT THE
DURAZO MATTER SHOULD NOW BE LEFT AS IT IS, WITH NO FURTHER
DISCUSSIONS BY AMERICAN OFFICIALS AT THIS POINT.

3. FYI: THE SEALED INDICTMENT HAS BEEN QUASHED OWING
TO OUR DISCOVERY THAT THE CASE ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED WAS
WEAK. HOWEVER, AN ATTEMPT IS BEING MADE TO DEVELOP A
STRONGER CASE.

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4. YOUR COMMENTS IN PARA 1(G) OF YOUR 10832 CONCERNING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S BELIEF THAT THE MOMENTUM OF THE CAMPAIGN IS IRREVERSIBLE WAS MOST HEARTENING, BUT WE WONDER ABOUT THE POINT HE MADE REGARDING LESS DIRECT INVOLVEMENT OF THE US IN THE CAMPAIGN. SHOULD WE TAKE SOME ACTION OR CHANGE OUR PLANNING, E.G., NUMBER OF USG SUPPORT PERSONNEL PROGRAMMED, ETC.? PERHAPS THE NARCOTICS COORDINATOR COULD AMPLIFY THIS POINT IF YOU BELIEVE IT NECESSARY.

5. WITH REGARD TO THE TRANSITION TO A NEW ADMINISTRATION AND THE ERADICATION CAMPAIGN, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE USUAL HOUSE CLEANING THAT OCCURS, WE UNDERSTAND, IN EVERY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT IN THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT WHEN A NEW PRESIDENT IS INAUGURATED COULD RESULT IN NO ONE OF THE EFFECTIVE MANAGER LEVEL MEN BEING LEFT. THE CAMPAIGN WOULD THEN STAGGER EXACTLY WHEN MOST POPPIES ARE BLOOMING - STAGGER NOTWITHSTANDING THE NEW PRESIDENT'S POLICY DETERMINATION THAT IT MOVE ON ENERGETICALLY. YOUR VIEWS ON THIS PROBLEM WILL BE APPRECIATED, AS WELL AS ANY SOLUTIONS THAT EXIST. KISSINGER

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